

# Editorial — Comment — Bulletin

## These are the facts...

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tion, but of late the enrolment is being forced downward to accommodate itself to the appropriations.

- That the caliber of instruction depends largely upon the funds available for that instruction is self evident, for men cannot live without food, and institutions cannot thrive without funds. Overly large classes without proper equipment can never serve effectively as media of education.
- That a steady increase in enrolment over a period of years calls either for an increase in funds or for a decline in the service rendered likewise cannot be denied.

Yet with an increase in enrolment of 79 percent over the last twenty years, appropriations today are lower than they were in the biennium 1919-21, and are only two-thirds the size they were in 1929-31.

Following the 1929 crash with its secondary effects upon agricultural income, what correlation existed between enrolment and appropriations ended, and the amount expended per student enrolled has been dropping steadily ever since.

• A rising cost of living decreases the purchasing power of the dollar, and necessitates increasing the funds to maintain adequately the same functions already exercised. Since 1932 the cost of living has risen from 69 to 83; yet the expenditure per student has decreased from 69 to 55. Bearing this increased living cost in mind, the real expenditure per student as measured in actual goods, has sunk to an index of 46, less than half what it was in 1929.

Nor is our picture brightened by the knowledge that the University of Minnesota is also complaining about being in a bad way. Their complaints that proper education cannot be given on their present per student expenditure of \$174, appears significant when compared to our \$144, and with the realization that not once since 1931 has our ratio gone over that amount.

If this trend is permanent; if no provision for depreciation of our equipment is made; and if the funds for instructional use continue to become more and more scarce, ultimately the star of education must grow dimmer in this state.

## Take your pick . . .

Two solutions to the problem are possible. Both aim at an increase in the allotment per student. On the one hand we could increase the appropriations to a point compatible with the registration we now have. On the other hand we can increase the fees and raise the entrance requirements and thereby cut down the enrolment to a point where adequate training can be given with the appropriations we have.

This latter solution is essentially what the university is being compelled to do. Eventually if carried far enough, it should solve the problem. But its solution will be at the expense of making this a rich man's college, of reducing the number that may enjoy the privilege of a higher education, and through reducing the number coming from the more distant quarters of the state will center the enrolment in Lincoln and Omaha.

What can be done is a problem in itself. That solution we leave to men more qualified than we to settle questions of this kind. From an academic standpoint, however, the trends are interesting.

And they leave us wondering what the ultimate outcome will be.

Texas College of Mines and Metallurgy paleontologists have removed dinosaur bones from the Texas Big Bend area.

Cadets at the Citadel, South Carolina military college, come from 33 states, three territories, the District of Columbia and one foreign country.

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## Beneath the Golden Dome

★ by Art Rivin ★

State appropriations may be distributed more wisely this session than ever before. At the instigation of Senator Callan, the appropriations committee has been organized into three sub-committees. One deals with the capitol building and state offices in it; a second will investigate the needs of the state's several educational institutions and the third is concerned with the board of control of other state institutions.

Such a system will unquestionably result in a more detailed study of the requirements of the various state agencies. According to Senator Callan, appropriation committee chairman, the members of the various sub-committees will make an "on-the-spot" personal investigation of the institutions within their jurisdiction. Said

## Lambert-

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committee on claims and deficiencies, vice chairman of the public works committee and member of the banking and commerce group.

To abolish the state railway commission and substitute for it a Nebraska public utilities commission—that is the theme of Senator Lambert's L. B. 10, one he considers most vital to the state.

Not only would the bill change the name of the regulatory body but it would also provide for election of the members by congressional districts instead of from the state at large. When the railway commission was first established, its only function was to regulate railroads.

But today it has jurisdiction over all common carriers and all communication and power utilities. Senator Lambert believes that a public utility commission would more appropriately name the duties of the body.

Questioned as to the reason for the proposed change in election procedure, the senator replied: "It would be more fair to the whole state. With election from the state at large, only the eastern section gains representation."

Interesting hobbies seem to be the rule in the legislature. Senator Lambert's is travel. Each summer he makes a trip and has thus far visited 42 states of the Union.

Senator Callan concerning the university:

"Formerly the board of regents was allotted only an hour and a half in committee hearing to present and explain the requests of the university. By going up to the school, making inquiries and talking informally to university officials, we'll have a truer picture of university needs."

Appropriation committee members expect to report the bill out by the first of April.

## Baldwin addresses religious groups

Speaking to a joint meeting of Kappa Phi and Phi Tau Theta DeWitte C. Baldwin, student secretary for the Methodist Board of Foreign Missions and former missionary to Burma, discussed "World Friendship" in parlors X and Y of the Union at 7:15 yesterday night. All interested students are invited.

Bernice McDonald and Betty Jeanne Spalding are hostesses for this meeting. Winona Spellman is in charge of the music and Dorothy White is general chairman for the meeting.

Ten thousand day and evening students attend classes in Hunter college's new skyscraper in New York.

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## Bulletin

**AG YWCA.**  
 Ag college YWCA will sponsor a "sweater-and-skirt" tea to be held Thursday from 3:45 to 5:45 p. m. in the home economics parlors. Everyone is invited to come and sign up for commission groups.

**PI MU EPSILON.**  
 Pi Mu Epsilon will hold a public meeting at 7:30 p. m. Thursday in Bruce laboratory, room 211. Ray Murray will speak on "The Mathematics of Physical Systems." New members are urged to attend to receive their keys.

**AWS.**  
 Members of freshman and upperclass AWS will meet at 5 p. m. today in Ellen Smith hall.

**SIGMA GAMMA EPSILON.**  
 There will be an open house meeting of Sigma Gamma Epsilon in room 20, Morrill hall, at 8 p. m. Friday. A colored film, "Northwestern Wonderlands," will be shown.

**AG PING PONG.**  
 All ag girls interested in entering the badminton and ping pong singles tournaments for girls should call Barbara Fairley at 6-3302.

Freshman and sophomore classes are larger this year at North Dakota Agricultural college, but junior and senior classes are slightly smaller.

## The Daily Nebraskan

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Today's Special  
 Thurs. Noon  
 Febr. 13  
**25c**

Creamed Chipped  
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## The Dopey Dictionary

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